

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 NRC-05 NSAE-00 USIA-06

TRSE-00 EUR-12 ERDA-05 ISO-00 MC-02 /038 W

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FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 300

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EXCON

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ESTC, COCOM, RO

SUBJ: VISIT OF ERDA-DOD COMPUTER TEAM TO ROMANIA, 10/31-11/3/76

REF: STATE 255478

1. ERDA/DOD TEAM OF KRATZ, BRENNER AND FINKLER ENGAGED IN DISCUSSIONS WITH ROMANIANS WHICH THEY CHARACTERIZED AS FRANK AND HONEST. TEAM'S IMPRESSION WAS THAT ROMANIANS WERE AS OPEN WITH THEM ON ROMANIAN COMPUTER DEVELOPMENT AS TEAM COULD HAVE HOPED,

2. ROMCONTROL DATA. TEAM SAW ROMCONTROL DATA REQUEST FOR ASSEMBLY/ PRODUCTION OF 60 MEGABYTE DISC DRIVES AS LOGICAL MANUFACTURING STEP FROM ROMANIAN STANDPOINT WHICH WELL WITHIN ROMANIAN CAPABILITIES

.
THEY IMPRESSED WITH THIS FACTORY AND SAW EVERYTHING THAT THEY WANTED TO SEE, NOT ONLY AT JOINT VENTURE BUT AT ROMANIA'S OTHER COMPUTER RELATED FACILITIES IN BUCHAREST. COLLECTIVELY, THESE VISITS PROVIDED WHAT TEAM CONSIDERED ADEQUATE TECHNICAL INFORMATION O
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WHICH TO BASE THEIR RECOMMENDATIONS. GOR OFFICIALS AGAIN EXPRESSED THEIR EXPECTATION THAT SECRETARY RICHARDSON WOULD BRING FAVORABLE U.S. DECISION WITH HIM AT TIME OF III SESSION OF JOINT ECONOMIC

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COMMISSION. TEAM EXPRESSED FEELING THAT U.S. DECISION ON EXPORT

LICENSE WOULD BE READY BY TIME OF MEETING.

3. DISC DRIVE: ON SEPARATE BUT RELATED CDC APPLICATION FOR EXPORT FROM U.S. TO ROMANIA OF DISC DRIVES, TEAM SAID THEY SATISFIED THAT 60 MEGABYTE DISC DRIVES ROMANIANS REQUESTING ARE REASONABLE GIVEN LEVEL OF DEVELOPMENT OF ROMANIAN DATA PROCESSING AND INFORMATICS AND TECHNICALLY DESIRABLE FROM ROMANIAN POINT OF VIEW. TEAM TOLD ROMANIANS THAT U.S. "BIT BULLET" ON O.E.M. QUANTITIES OF DISC DRIVES, BUT THAT CASES STILL MUST BE EXAMINED ON A CASE BY CASE BASIS.

4. ONLY DISAPPOINTING FEATURE OF VISIT WAS TEAM'S INABILITY TO SEE ROMANIAN IC'S BEING PRODUCED. AFTER EMBASSY INTERVENTION, ROMANIANS REVERSED THEIR INITIAL DECISION AND PERMITTED TEAM TO VISIT PLANT WHICH PRODUCES IC'S (INTREPRINDEREA DE PIESE DE RADIO SI SEMICONDUCTORI - I.P.R.S. BANEASA, EROU IANCU NICOLAE 32, BUCHAREST, ROMANIA). ERDA/DOD CONTINGENT ONLY SHOWN DIODE AND SEMI-CONDUCTOR PRODUCTION, HOWEVER, AND NOT ALLOWED SEE PORTION OF PLANT DEVOTED TO IC PRODUCTION. ROMANIAN TECHNICAL PERSONNEL INDICATED THAT COUNTRY HAS BEEN PRODUCING IC'S FOR KLIX PROGRAM FOR FOUR YEARS. TEAM ALSO SHOWN CATALOG OF LOCALLY PRODUCED IC'S.

5. ROMANIAN CANDOR ESPECIALLY EVIDENT AT INSTITUTE OF ATOMIC PHYSICS (IFA). CONCERNING IFA'S REQUEST FOR NEW COMPUTER SYSTEM AND EXPANSION OF ZRMSHBNG SYSTEM (SEE BUCHAREST 6455), TEAM IMPRESSED ON IFA OFFICIALS THAT OPENNESS OF NUCLEAR FACILITY IS ONE OF REQUIREMENTS BEFORE U.S. EXPORT LICENSE GRANTED FOR LARGE COMPUTER SYSTEM.

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